First Look Analysis:
Proposed Senate Map
Senate Democratic Caucus, October 27, 2021

Fair Districts GA &

Princeton Gerrymandering Project

FairDistrictsGA

Respect voters' political preferences:

PARTISAN BALANCE AND COMPETITION

Comparison of the proposed state Senate map to fairness benchmarks:

With 31 Republican-leaning and 25 Democratic-leaning districts, the proposed map aligns with the narrowing partisan gap, now close to a 50-50 split, seen in recent statewide elections. The map meets the fairness benchmarks shown below. The existing State Senate delegation includes 34 Republicans and 22 Democrats.

Nine Republican and 10 Democratic districts, or 34% of the total 56 districts, show evidence of extreme partisan gerrymandering by packing or cracking more Republican or Democratic voters into those districts than any of the 1 million simulated maps created for the benchmark analysis. There are 3 competitive districts, defined as having a proportion of each party's voters in the 46.5%-53.5% range. The expected range for competitive districts is 1-7.

Conclusions:

The proposed map falls within the benchmark ranges shown below and does not confer undue advantage to either party. The Princeton Gerrymandering Project gave this map a grade of "A."

What is a Fair Map?

Working with Fair Districts GA, the Princeton Gerrymandering Project conducted a state-of-the art analysis using 2020 census data to create benchmarks/fairness tests that can be used to evaluate proposed maps drawn by the Georgia General Assembly. To be considered fair, proposed district maps for the State Senate should comply with the following criteria.

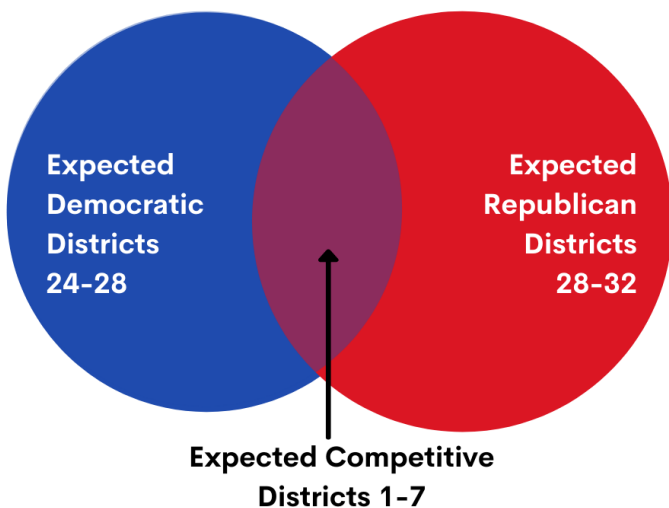**Respect voters' political preferences**

- Reflect the natural political preferences of voters distributed across the state
- Allow for competition

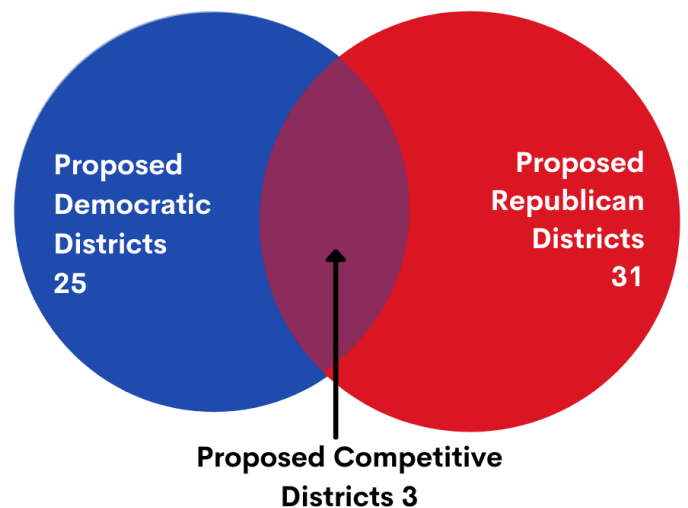**Reflect Georgia's diversity**

- Provide sufficient majority-minority opportunity districts and comply with the Voting Rights Act
- Preserve minority influence districts

Honor communities of interest

Senate Fairness Benchmarks:

Expected Democratic Districts 24-28

Expected Republican Districts 28-32

Expected Competitive Districts 1-7

Proposed Democratic Caucus Senate Map:

Proposed Democratic Districts 25

Proposed Republican Districts 31

Proposed Competitive Districts 3

Reflect Georgia's diversity:

MAJORITY-MINORITY AND MINORITY INFLUENCE DISTRICTS

Comparison of the proposed state Senate map to fairness benchmarks:

The proposed map provides 13 Black-majority districts, which are protected by the Voting Rights Act if specific criteria are met. The existing map includes 15 districts and our analysis indicates that 16 are possible. There are 5 Black influence districts with a Black Voting Age Population between 37% and 50%. Studies have shown that at these population levels, Black voters can elect candidates of their choice by forming coalitions with other groups.
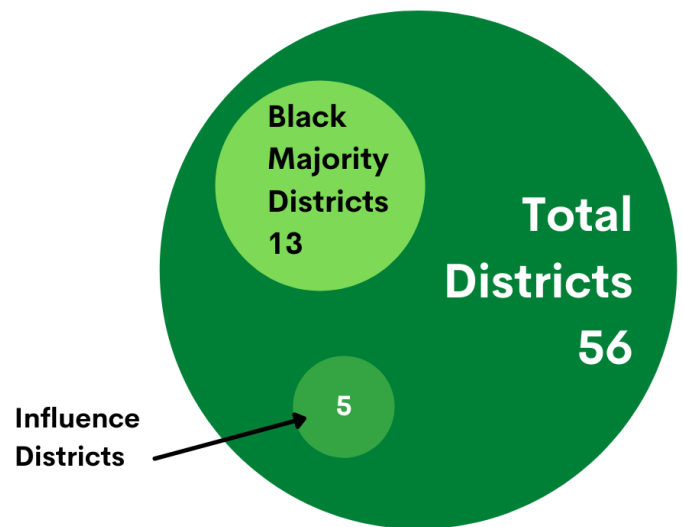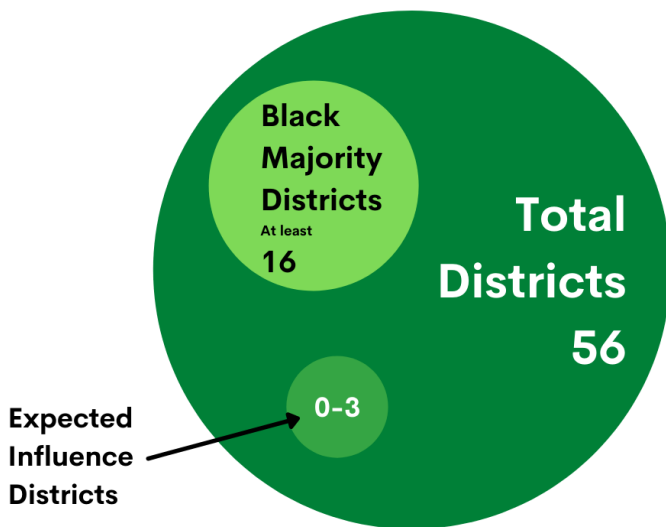
As shown in the 2020 census, the diversity of Georgia's population has increased significantly to include multiple minority groups. The proposed map has 22 majority-minority districts, more than the expected total of 20 districts, which include Black and other minority voters. The map also includes 12 minority influence districts, including 1 Hispanic influence district.

Conclusions:

Like the current map, the proposed map provides a total of 34 districts, including 22 majority-minority and 12 minority influence, that give Black and other minority voters the opportunity to elect the candidates of their choice.

Senate Fairness Benchmarks:

Black Majority Districts At least 16

Total Districts 56

Expected Influence Districts → 0-3

Proposed Democratic Caucus Senate Map:

Black Majority Districts 13

Total Districts 56

Influence Districts → 5

Honor communities of interest:

CITY SPLITS

The current map unnecessarily splits 42% of Georgia cities that have a 2020 census population that could fit into a single district. The proposed map reduces the percentage of split cities to 38% .

Visit the Fair Districts GA website for the latest information and analysis.
Legislator Resource Page: bit.ly/FDGALegislatorResources
Georgia Explorer Interactive Map: bit.ly/FDGAExplorer

FairDistrictsGA.org
Gerrymander.Princeton.edu
11/03/2021